REQUEST FOR ACCESS OF ABANDONED APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.14(a)

In re Application of:

Harari Et. Al.

Application Number	Filed
337566	4/13/89

Group Art Unit	Examiner

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I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(3)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is: (CHECK ONE)

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____ (C) an application that claims the benefit of the filing date of an application that is open to public inspection, i.e., Application No. _____, filed _____, or

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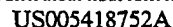
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[54] **FLASH EEPROM SYSTEM WITH ERASE SECTOR SELECT**

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[73] Assignee: **Sundisk Corporation**, Santa Clara, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: **963,851**

[22] Filed: **Oct. 20, 1992**

Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of Ser. No. 337,566, Apr. 13, 1989, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.^{6} **G11C 7/00**
[52] U.S. Cl. **365/218**; 365/185; 365/900
[58] Field of Search 365/185, 218, 900, 230.03

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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R. Wilson, "1–Mbit flash memories seek their role in system design", Computer Design, Mar. 1, 1989, pp. 30 and 32.

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Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Majestic, Parsons, Siebert & Hsue

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A system of Flash EEprom memory chips with controlling circuits serves as non-volatile memory such as that provided by magnetic disk drives. Improvements include selective multiple sector erase, in which any combinations of Flash sectors may be erased together. Selective sectors among the selected combination may also be de-selected during the erase operation. Another improvement is the ability to remap and replace defective cells with substitute cells. The remapping is performed automatically as soon as a defective cell is detected. When the number of defects in a Flash sector becomes large, the whole sector is remapped. Yet another improvement is the use of a write cache to reduce the number of writes to the Flash EEprom memory, thereby minimizing the stress to the device from undergoing too many write/erase cycling.

4 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets